

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES - DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

FACT SHEET

**APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO CONSULTANT SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH
CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE FOR MENTAL HEALTH
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2002-2003
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)**

REQUEST:

Approve the Amendment format and instruct the Director of Mental to prepare, sign, and execute Amendment No. 3 to Contract No. DMH-01073, with California Institute for Mental Health (CIMH). The Amendment will allow CIMH to provide training for infant-family, child and adolescent services and consultation concerning housing for the homeless. The Amendment will be effective upon Board approval. The revised Maximum Contract Amount will be \$809,500 for Fiscal Year 2002-2003.

CONTRACTOR:

CIMH has the expertise to provide the required technical assistance and training to expand and enhance services provided by DMH and contract agencies to children and their families who are affected with multiple and varied mental health problems.

Children from birth to age five and their families have been greatly underserved in the past. Nationally recognized experts will be selected to provide the specific knowledge and skills to work with this target population, as well as to provide the training necessary to develop linkages and interagency collaboration.

INTENT:

The Amendment will allow CIMH to provide: 1) for training for infant-family mental health services; 2) assistance with development of an outcome measurement system for the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) Program; 3) specialized training for child and adolescent services; and 4) consultation concerning housing for the homeless.

JUSTIFICATION:

Throughout Los Angeles County there is a lack of sufficient mental health services for very young children and their families by mental health professionals who have sufficient knowledge and skills to assess and treat this specific population. Training is required to assist clinicians in the early intervention strategies necessary to provide these valuable services to this under-served population. Increasing access to

appropriate and quality mental health services for families with young children, particularly in high-risk communities, requires significantly augmented training and outgoing technical assistance for mental health professionals serving this population.

Additional training is needed in such areas as the treatment of dually diagnosed consumers, working with the parents of mentally ill children, suicide prevention, cultural competency, school-based services, strength-based assessment and treatment, treating transitional age youth, and wraparound services. There is also a special need for ongoing training and technical assistance in the area of housing, including the development of new housing stock with supportive services, for persons with mental health disabilities.

CONTRACTING PROCESS:

CIMH provides many types of training and technical assistance related to mental health issues on a statewide basis and has an established reputation for producing excellent seminars, workshops and conferences for large numbers of participants. Through their large national network, CIMH is in a position to access high quality presenters/trainers with expertise in comprehensive mental health areas which must be addressed in Los Angeles County.

Therefore, the expertise already exists to provide consultation and training in the area of mental health services to the very young and their families, as well as consultation and training in all areas relevant to the needs of children and adolescents, and to provide consultants in the area of housing for the homeless.

Additionally, their statewide collaborations and information in the area of outcome measurement systems, validates the selection of CIMH to assist with the various aspects of developing a short-term and long-term outcome measurement system for the CalWORKs program. A plan for a short-range assessment involves a special study methodology to capture client and staff judgments of system helpfulness. The long-range plan is an outgoing outcome data system that would have the capacity to produce reports about the clinical and employment status of CalWORKs participants who received supportive services

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